

SOUTHWESTERN THORN NATIONALS

Cantillonites Slump at First Sight of Young Left Hand.

RAIN INTERFERES; GAME SHORTENED

Cantillon Sets Public Right on Question of Detroit Exhibition Games.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

DALLAS, Texas, March 24.—There was no dawdling or attempting to work off funny tricks when Dallas met Washington 1 to 1 yesterday afternoon. The Nationals were trying to win, but they simply could do nothing with the pitching of Moore, a young left hander, who had all a good pitcher should have. He is not a left hander, but if Washington is to curl up that way before south-paws this season, we are doomed to trouble.

Wet grounds interfered with the fielding, and the rain caused the pitchers to show undue haste and poor judgment, but all the same the Texans outplayed our brave boys. The two teams met here again this afternoon, and should provide another good battle, if Dallas has a second Moore on its staff.

Manager Cantillon has heard nothing about the trouble yet, and is waiting because of the game between Washington and Detroit in San Antonio. President Ben Johnson is quoted as saying the game was a baseball misdeed, meriting reproof, and possibly punishment. Down here we don't believe it. Cantillon says: "At the February meeting of the American League the matter of exhibition games between our clubs was discussed, and effort to prevent them entirely did not succeed. Instead, a rule was adopted that such games could be arranged if they were in training territory and not in a home city of either club, but permission had to be obtained from Johnson. We were the visiting club when we played Detroit at San Antonio. It was up to Jennings to get permission, and if he did not have it when he summoned us to the park to keep this afternoon, it is not my fault. This is about the right view, and the trouble makers should bear it in mind."

EASTER ENTERS COLLEGIATE FIELD

Former High School Athlete Confident of Landing Place on Lafayette Team.

Ralph C. Brown, captain of the Eastern High School track team last season, who is now a student at the Lafayette College, is in town for several days. Brown will be a member of the track squad at Lafayette when the outdoor season begins, and is modestly confident that he will secure a regular berth on the outfit. While at Eastern, Brown was the best short-distance and quarter-mile runner in the school, also running several times as a member of the winning Eastern High School relay team. He entered Lafayette this year, and as that college does not practice track work on the track, he has done but little training since his graduation from Eastern last year.

M'FARLAND WINNER OVER LEACH CROSS

Chicago Mitt Artist Easily Defeats East Side Champion.

NEW YORK, March 24.—Those who saw last night's battle between Leach Cross, the East Side dentist, and "Puckey" McFarland, the "stock yard kid," know they witnessed a fight. It was a rough and vicious battle throughout, but McFarland had the cleverness and also the punishing abilities. The bout shows the Leach does not class with McFarland.

MORAN WINS BOUT FROM T. MURPHY

Briton Given the Decision at End of Twelve-Round Scrap.

BOSTON, Mass., March 24.—Admirers of Tommy Murphy are claiming robbery over the decision given to Owen Moran, the Englishman, in their twelve-round bout last night. Moran did practically all of the forcing, and while Murphy landed many telling blows, the Briton had a lead which entitled him to the award.

Big league scorers and types are hoping Manager Bowerman will line up his Doves with the following batting order when the bell rings: Bates, Ball, Beck, Becker, Starr, Stern, Smith, Dorner, White and Tucker. Not a man would have over six letters in his last name.

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CARPENTER QUILTS OFFICE IN LEAGUE

Sunday School President Will Resign Position at Early Meeting.

PICK SUCCESSOR FROM MANAGERS

Schedule Will Be Longer This Season—New Grounds Hailed With Acclaim.

When President F. A. Carpenter, of the Sunday School Baseball League, calls the managers to order at the first regular meeting of the board of directors next Friday evening it will be for the last time, for after piloting the organization through three successful seasons and landing it as one of the foremost amateur leagues in the city, he has decided to pass up the cares and responsibilities of the office.

This is one of the severest blows the league has sustained for several seasons, for Carpenter ranks among the leading amateur magnates and is a valuable asset to any organization. In the course of his leadership he has brought the league to one of the best-patronized amateur organizations in the city, and last year produced an article of ball seldom seen on the sand lots of Washington. Although Carpenter will resign the presidency, he has been persuaded to accept some other less laborious position and will not be lost altogether to the budding organization.

At the present time it is doubtful who the successor to President Carpenter will be, but, as several of the older managers who allied themselves with the league's forces when it was organized, are still in the ranks, it is more than probable that the choice will fall to one of them.

The opinion expressed by the various managers is that the games this season will be even better than those which drew the largest crowds in the city last year.

Change in Roster.

The withdrawal of the Grace and Waugh teams will cause a slight shake-up in the club roster. Peck Memorial, of Georgetown, Hamline, and Langdon making application for the vacant positions. This question will be settled at the next meeting of the directors on Friday. A committee will be appointed to draw up a schedule. Because of the popularity of the short season last year the various managers declare themselves in favor of a longer playing season, and it has already been planned to start the season at the regular time, and extend it at least a month longer than last season's program.

Last year the schedule petered out about the middle of July, and despite efforts on the part of the directors to extend it, peace between the various managers cropped out, and the task was made impossible. Those managers who at that time held leading positions in the league did not wish to risk their standings, and stubbornly preferred to close up shop. This feature will be looked after at the meeting next Friday, and it is likely that the schedule adopted will begin about the first of May, and continue through the last of September.

Gets New Park.

The change in grounds is another item which the directors argue will promote the popularity of the league. Last year all the games were played at Sixth and D streets northeast, but as the ground is being used for building purposes the directors were forced to the painful necessity of hunting out another diamond.

With the withdrawal of the Marquette League from the northeast the grounds at Thirteenth and D streets were left vacant, and the deal whereby the Sunday School League will play there this coming season has been practically clinched. This league played on the Thirteenth street grounds two seasons ago, the returns from the games being much larger there than at any other stand used by the league.

As soon as the lease on the grounds is turned over to the league work will be started on the erection of the stands and screens. The equipment used last season at Sixth and D has been sold, and it is the intention of the league magnates to erect entirely new seats and screens. The grounds, although they are now in good condition, will be worked up, and by the time the season opens the Sunday School League should have one of the best stands in the city.

YALE TRACK STARS ARE COMING SOUTH

NEW HAVEN, March 24.—The Yale track squad will train in the South for the dual track meet at Charlottesville with the University of Virginia on April 18.

The men will leave on April 3, and the major part of the expense will be borne by the Yale Athletic Association. Most of the Yale athletes will be in the South during the Easter recess, the crew leaving for Philadelphia on March 31 and the baseball men a few days later.

WESTERN CLUBS BEGIN TO FEAR PROSPECTIVE RISE OF NATIONALS

Showing in Exhibition Games Worries Jennings Despite Tiger Victories—Detroit Has Advantage Over Washington Club Because of Trainer—Cantillon Responsible for Shaved Heads in Enemy's Camp.

DAILY LETTERS TO WASHINGTON FANS—No. 16

Dallas, Tex., March 24, 1909.

Dear Fanatics: The impression has gone abroad among the other major league teams that Washington will be watching and may have something up its sleeve this year.

The conservative statements in The Times predicting a strong chance for the top of the second division have been read by the magnates, and they are wondering whether we have something in reserve. They have examined the material and would not be surprised to see them slip into the first division. We, ourselves, think the other fellows too timid about Washington, but it is in the line of possibilities that the fears of Jimmy McAleer, Hughie Jennings, et al. may be realized, and that Washington may join the class of the chosen few.

Jennings was particularly solicitous in inquiring about our present condition and future prospects. He tried not to seem anxious, but he edged around the gang and wanted to know just where we stood. When the Saturday game was played Hughie devoted more attention to watching the work of our brave boys than he did to the performance of his own henchmen. Hughie is of the opinion that Washington is much stronger this year than last, no matter what it may accomplish in the exhibition games, and the thought does not please him, for the stronger those Eastern clubs this year the harder sledding it is going to be for the Tigers.

Tigers in Condition.

All of the Tigers look well, but George Munn, the pitcher, is making a special hit by his condition. He is in better spring shape than ever in his career, and was the recipient of numerous congratulations from the Washington players. Much of the condition of the Tigers is due to the training they have received from Harry Tuthill, a man who

knows physical condition and how to prescribe for the ailments athletes are heir to. He is on the job all the time, and is capable of giving Jennings excellent advice. In this Detroit has a distinct advantage over the Washington club, which really has no trainer, and needs one badly. A competent expert who can not only diagnose a trouble but treat it, and is actually willing to do something, would be a big help. The fans know this, and the players are equally as wise. The present arrangement is far from satisfactory and it is a wonder Cantillon does not wake up.

Ty Cobb is slugging the ball this spring just the same as he did last spring, and is the joy of the St. Antonio fans, who take an immense interest in his tremendous wallop. Mrs. Cobb is not with him this spring because of bad health. He looks good for another year as an all-around star.

The kidding matches between Cantillon and Germany Schaefer were not at all out because Schaefer is just recovering from long spell of illness. They were at it hammer and tongs, and the German rather got under Cantillon's tough skin by telling what the Tigers expected to accomplish against Washington.

Shaved Head Joke.

Somebody started the shaved head business among the Tigers this spring and they present a comical sight when in the big dressing room at the Turkish bathhouse in San Antonio. Half a dozen of them have had their thatching temporarily obliterated, and some of them are regretting the move because of the dies and the kidding. In connection with this, Cantillon tells the story of how he persuaded Schaefer and another player to have their heads shaved when they came to the Washington club. Cantillon promised he would have his head polished off if the others would. He took them to a barber shop where two chairs were vacant and courteously insisted that they should have the first chance at the shears and at which they were sitting what he called of roosting. Cantillon skipped out.

Schaefer was so mad he did not speak to Cantillon for a month. The St. Louis players and newspaper men are vastly taken with the work of Griggs, the second baseman who was brought in from the ballbushes this spring. He can not only play second, but can fill in most anywhere else and McAleer will have a tough time placing him. Jimmy Williams is reported lighter and in better shape this spring than for years, and Griggs will hardly be able to displace the veteran at second.

Browns are Bumptious.

Lou Criger's transfer to the St. Louis Americans has filled them full of all sorts of sassy notions about the pennant. The players attribute much of their collapse as a club last season to the lack of a man of Criger's caliber. They cite numerous cases where quick thinking and the application of long experience on the part of the backstop would have saved the day. They think Criger will not only offset the weakness in his own department, but will be of great assistance to the pitchers. This reasoning is right as far as it goes, but it will take a lot of doings to convince the fans in other cities that St. Louis has a genuine comfort to McAleer. Roy going good will be a mighty handy companion. Tom Jones is showing the effect of not having any serious competitor for his job at first and is dividing himself between the inside work connected with his position. Jones has been on the anxious bench ever since he got into last company until this year, and he is under the new conditions will be of special interest.

Will Cy Young's pitcher's offset Washington's Indian sign on Cleveland? Ponder that carefully. Yours in the faith, THOMAS S. RICE.

PRINCETON TEAM PLAYS FIRST GAME

With Mediocre Aggregation Coaches Are Doubtful of Tigers' Chances.

PRINCETON, N. J., March 24.—Princeton's baseball nine opens its season in a game with New York University on the home grounds.

Although daily practice of a most strenuous sort has been the order of the last three weeks, the Tigers have had only two or three trials on the diamond. The fielding of the candidates has been far in advance of their batting ability. Handicapped as the team was by the loss of several of its best men by graduation, the recent midyear examinations further depleted the ranks of available candidates.

The squad is now reduced to twenty-five men, and the personnel of the team is far from settled.

STOCK AT CENTRAL TAKES BIG BOOST

O Street Aggregation Has Formidable Line Except in Pitching.

When the high school baseball season opens fans will view in the Central High School aggregation one of the strongest teams developed around the circuit during the last two seasons. With the exception of a pitcher, the dark blue and white team is even now stronger than the technical crew which capped the school's pennant last year. Under Acting Captain Menefee all of the candidates have shown marked improvement in the past two weeks, and the rough edges are beginning to disappear. The dash and vim of the younger spirit dominates, and even the practice stunts are being run off in spirited fashion. With one or two exceptions, the young men have been definitely decided upon, and those who have the team in charge are striving diligently toward snappy team play.

PRESIDENT'S SON CUT FROM SQUAD

Bob Taft Dropped From Yale Crew, But Will Try Again.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., March 24.—The Yale rowing squad has been given its biggest cut-down of the season, and Bob Taft, son of the President, was dropped.

He has made a plucky try for the seat at first and is dividing himself between the inside work connected with his position. Jones has been on the anxious bench ever since he got into last company until this year, and he is under the new conditions will be of special interest.

Will Cy Young's pitcher's offset Washington's Indian sign on Cleveland? Ponder that carefully.

TIMELY COMMENT ON DAY'S SPORT TOPICS

CATCHER AS MANAGER.

IS A CATCHER too busy to manage a ball club? This question has arisen from the assertion of President Conkley, of the White Sox, that he thought Billy Sullivan had enough to do without being burdened with the managerial reins. In the two major leagues there are at present two catcher-managers, Roger Bresnahan, of the St. Louis Cardinals, and Frank Bowerman, of the Boston Doves. Neither of these men has had a chance to prove his worth, and for that reason it is manifestly unfair to jump to the conclusion that either will be in any way a failure.

A major league backstop, particularly under the present system, which in most cases requires the first string catcher to work in five out of seven games, has the hardest job in baseball, aside from the manager. Furthermore, it is safe to say most of the present-day catchers are assistant managers and do more thinking, perhaps, than the men who are earning the managerial salaries.

There are times when the real manager is the idle eye of the field. He may be working with his brains but not with his hands, or vice versa. There is no time when a good catcher is not employed busy both physically and mentally. The ball is in his hands oftener than in any one else save the pitcher's, and he is forced to keep his mind working all the time, whatever the status of the game. In these days

of spitball pitching, a catcher has enough to do with his mitt and hand let alone brains. No one questions the fact that Sullivan is able to do a combined thinking and acting part.

But many 'question the wisdom of making a catcher manager when he already is the most important cog in the machine.

We are anxiously awaiting that pool match between Gus Wade, of the Palace, and George Campbell, of the Royal. Wonder when it will come off?

HE'LL GET DIVERSION.

ONE of the most prominent men in the United States today is E. H. Harriman. A few years ago Mr. Harriman was one of the large army of men who believed that his name should be kept from the newspapers.

The public press of the last few days has said that Harriman must quit his railroad and begin to get some diversion and recreation. Almost on the same page comes the announcement that Mr. Harriman expects to establish a stable of horses and take a little interest in the racing game.

If Mr. Harriman does this, he will get all the recreation and diversion he can possibly want. There is nothing on the face of the earth half so diverting as a stable of horses, with a little money back of it. Every man connected with the outfit appreciates the fact that there is a barrel capable of being

emptied and all hands conscientiously endeavor to empty it. Next to running a yacht, the racing game is the most expensive in the world, even to the man who does not gamble. The opportunities for output are unlimited and almost everybody tries them to the extreme.

Mr. Harriman has had a great many business experiences. He has spent millions of dollars, but he is due for one of the most novel sensations he ever had in his life just as soon as he gets fairly started with the ponies. He'll have diversion, all right!



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VIRGINIA SCORED BY ANCIENT RIVAL

Washington and Lee Makes Statement of Its Athletic Position.

RESENTS CHARGES OF BACKING DOWN

Officials Declare They Will Meet Orange and Blue on Any Neutral Field.

In the same tenor of a communication recently published in The Times criticizing the University of Virginia for its failure to arrange games with teams from which it has met defeat, the athletic committee of Washington and Lee has issued a statement of its position in regard to contention with Virginia.

This statement is brought forth because of Virginia's reply to criticism in which it was said that the repeated attempts to arrange games with Washington and Lee had been unsuccessful. The statement follows: "It is quite true that Virginia has not refused to play Washington and Lee in Charlottesville, but Washington and Lee has refused each time and rightly so. The last contest resulted in a victory for Washington and Lee, and hence it is only fair that the other game should be played on at least neutral territory. If Virginia pursues this policy, it is true she may say: 'We have not dropped so and so,' but it will be a mere empty phrase and meaningless to all purposes."

Virginia's partiality to the home grounds has been marked on more than one occasion, and must give rise to the belief that there is an aversion to playing at Charlottesville. The failure to arrange a third basketball game between these two institutions was due to this same cause. In answer to Washington and Lee's demand that the third game be played on neutral ground, the choice being left to Virginia to name the place, their manager's reply was to the effect that he would be willing to play in the Charlottesville skating rink as being fair to both teams. It is a strange idea of neutrality, and one which they hold in common with no one else.

"If Virginia really wished these games there are other reasons than the one given. Certainly not because it has simply been the custom to play Washington and Lee in Charlottesville. In years past Virginia has played football in Lexington, and one of the last left vacated by the Virginia Military Institute, but Virginia refused to play. "When it thus appears that for several years past we have been playing at Charlottesville, it would seem natural that we should expect Virginia to respond to the invitation to play in neutral ground occasionally. They have not come so, and it will probably rest at that until Virginia realizes that we get good games in Charlottesville if they must be willing to return the compliment by sometimes playing on neutral territory."

ATELL IS WINNER OVER FRANKIE NEIL

"Foxy Abe" Again Demonstrates Superiority Over Game Little Californian.

NEW YORK, March 24.—Frankie Neil, the little Californian, knows today that he is not in Abe Atell's class.

Neil, who had been chasing Atell for a match, got his opportunity last evening and the champion hammered him with will. Neil was a glutton for punishment and kept coming for more. Several times he backed the champion into a corner, but the latter's cleverness evaded Neil's swings.

Young Pierce, of Germantown, is matched to box Jimmy Walsh, of Boston, in the National Athletic Club, Philadelphia, Saturday night.

TURK'S SHOWING PLEASES EXPERTS

Mahmout Fails to Throw Americus in Hour Handicap Match.

HIS STYLE, HOWEVER, IMPRESSES CRITICS

Consensus of Opinion Dopes Turk a Worthy Opponent for Gotch.

BALTIMORE, Mar. 24.—Wrestling experts here are considerably worked up today over the match last evening between Americus of this city, and Mahmout, the Turk champion, who is matched to meet Frank Gotch, the champion heavyweight grappler of the world. Although the Turk failed to toss the Baltimore grappler once within the hour limit he very favorably impressed the Monumental City critics, and the majority think him a worthy opponent for the American champion's honors.

The Turk agreed to throw the local pride twice in one hour, but failing to gain even one fall, Americus was the victor, and by his performance once more demonstrated that he must be classed in the front rank of the great wrestlers of the country.

The Turk, who was more than twenty pounds heavier than the Baltimore lad, tried his utmost to plow the shoulders of his opponent to the mat, but Americus was equal to him and wriggled out of many dangerous positions. There was not a dull moment to the contest, and when the two men walked to the center of the mat for action the crowd felt that the Baltimore man was doomed to quick defeat.

It was not long, however, before the crowd changed its opinion, and as the bout progressed it became more evident that the Turk had met a real Tatar in his lighter, yet just as skillful, opponent.

And now the dope artists are scratching their craniums in their endeavors to find the various kinds of heads in baseball. Swell, fat, pin, bone, bald, sort, crazy, red, and mutton would be a good guess right off the reel.

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